

PROCLAMATION

AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT "MAY is WATER MONTH 2023"

- WHEREAS, water is American Samoa's most valuable and precious natural resource, a basic essential need for every human being; and
- WHEREAS, the health, comfort, and quality of life of American Samoa citizens depend on an ample supply of safe, clean, high-quality drinking water; and
- WHEREAS, American Samoa's drinking water sources are from its underground aquifers and thus unregulated human activities on land may have adverse impacts on these critical resources; and
- WHEREAS, protecting and conserving the pristine state of American Samoa's drinking water sources is essential to human health, comfort and standard of living for our people; and
- WHEREAS, the preservation of drinking water resources in American Samoa is an integral part of the Samoan culture and will benefit future generations; and
- WHEREAS, everyone is encouraged to recognize this precious resource, to help protect our source waters from pollution, to refrain from activities that may adversely affect them, and to practice water conservation on a daily basis; and
- WHEREAS, the American Samoa Government actively supports the upkeep of our drinking water infrastructure to deliver sustainable water in an innovative, reliable, safe, and cost-effective manner to support public health, vital communities, environmental protection, fire protection, and economic development; and
- WHEREAS, the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) and the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) continue to work in concert to protect groundwater sources of drinking water and ensure efficient and safe delivery to the people of American Samoa; and
- **WHEREAS**, we are all stewards of water resources upon which future generations depend, and each citizen is called upon to celebrate its significance, help protect our source waters from pollution, and practice water conservation measures;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as WATER MONTH. I encourage all citizens to be aware of the sacred nature of water and the importance of its cleanliness. It is the responsibility of the government and all citizens to provide and protect clean water for future

generations; I urge all citizens of American Samoa to join in supporting its observance and participate in the events commemorating this very important resource.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this <u>27th</u> day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA

Governor